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**HEAD OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT SENTENCED**  
**FOR FELONY THEFT OF U.S. GOVERNMENT MONEY**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that ROBERT E. BEEHLER, 57, of Hollister, California, was sentenced by United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton today for stealing United States government money. BEEHLER received three years of probation and he was ordered to pay full restitution. BEEHLER was further ordered to pay a fine of \$5,000 for his theft and cover-up crimes.

This case is the product of extensive investigation by the United States Department of Interior, Office of the Inspector General.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, from early 2000 through July 2003, BEEHLER stole from the federal government by using a United States government charge card and checks drawn on the United States government charge card account to make personal expenditures and to pay non-governmental expenses. BEEHLER admitted to stealing at least \$17, 939.43. BEEHLER made checks drawn on the United States government charge card account payable to family members, among other persons, and then forged endorsement of the checks. To conceal his theft and fraud BEEHLER later created and submitted fraudulent vouchers claiming the funds were for legitimate expenditures.

At the time of BEEHLER's theft and during his cover-up activity, BEEHLER was the supervisor and Field Manager for the United States Bureau of Land Management located in Hollister, California. BEEHLER is no longer a federal employee.

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